

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A variable length socket, comprising:

- a) a first member including first and second sections;
- b) a second member for cooperating with said first member and including third and fourth sections;
- c) one of said first and second sections and one of said third and fourth sections including cooperating splines;
- d) the other of said first and second sections configured to receive a workpiece to be manipulated by the socket;
- e) the splines of said one of said first and second sections extending partly along the length of said first member[. . .]; and
- f) wherein the length of the socket can be adjusted by cooperatively moving said first and second members relative to each other.

Claim 2 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 1, wherein:

- a) the splines of said one of said first and second sections extend upto about a midpoint along the length of said first member.

Claim 3 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 2, wherein:

- a) the other of said first and second sections includes an internal recess extending upto about the midpoint along the length of said first member.

Claim 4 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 3, wherein:

- a) said recess is generally hexagonal in shape.

Claim 5 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 2, wherein:

- a) the splines are generally involute in shape.

Claim 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 2, wherein:

- a) said one of said first and second sections includes six to twenty-seven splines.

Claim 8 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 2, wherein:

- a) one of the splines of said one of said first and second sections is about one-half to six inches in length.

Claim 9 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 2, wherein:

- a) the other of said third and fourth sections includes a recess for receiving a drive member of a wrench.

Claim 10 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 2, wherein:

- a) the splines of said one of said third and fourth sections extend beyond a midpoint along the length of said second member.

Claim 11 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 1, in combination with a variable length wrench.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A variable length socket, comprising:

- a) a first member including a spline section and an axially contiguous drive section;
- b) a second member for telescopically cooperating with said first member and including a spline section and an axially contiguous drive section;

- c) said first member including internal splines in said spline section thereof;
- d) said second member including external splines in said spline section thereof for cooperating with the internal splines of said first member;
- e) the internal splines extending upto about a midpoint along the length of said first member; [[and]]
- f) said drive section of said first member including an internal recess for receiving a workpiece to be manipulated by the socket[[.]]; and
- g) wherein the length of the socket can be adjusted by cooperatively moving said first and second members relative to each other.

Claim 13 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 12, wherein:

- a) said internal recess extends upto about the midpoint along the length of said first member.

Claim 14 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 12, wherein:

- a) the internal and external splines are generally involute in shape.

Claim 15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 12, wherein:

- a) one of said first and second members includes six to twenty-seven splines.

Claim 17 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 12, wherein:

- a) one of the internal splines and one of the external splines is about one-half to six inches in length.

Claim 18 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 12, wherein:

- a) said drive section of said second member includes a recess for receiving a drive member of a wrench.

Claim 19 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 12, wherein:

- a) the external splines extend beyond a midpoint along the length of said second member.

Claim 20 (original): The variable length socket of Claim 12, in combination with a variable length wrench.

Claim 21 (new): A two-piece variable length socket, comprising:

- a) a first member including first and second sections;
- b) a second member for cooperating with said first member and including third and fourth sections;
- c) one of said first and second sections and one of said third and fourth sections including cooperating splines for allowing axial movement between said first and second members to adjust a length of the socket;
- d) means for frictionally locking said first and second members;
- e) said locking means comprising said cooperating splines;
- f) the other of said first and second sections configured to receive a workpiece to be manipulated by the socket;
- g) the splines of said one of said first and second sections extending upto about a midpoint along the length of said first member; and
- h) the internal diameter of said first member being generally constant throughout the length thereof.

Claim 22 (new): The variable length socket of Claim 21, further comprising:

- a) an abutment positioned internally at about the midpoint along the length of said first member.